THOMAS M. OSBORNE, JR.

Center for Thomistic Studies /
Department of Philosophy
University of St. Thomas
3800 Montrose Blvd.
Houston, TX 77006
phone: (713) 942-3483
e-mail: osborntm@stthom.edu

CURRENT POSITION

Department of Philosophy and Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas, 2003- (Full Professor, 2016-; Frank Rudman Endowed Chair in Philosophy, 2023-2026)

EDUCATION

2001-2002	Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies Licentiate in Mediaeval Studies, 2002 Gilson Fellow Thesis: "William of Ockham as a Divine Command Theorist."
1996-2001	Duke University PhD, Philosophy, 2001; Certificate in Medieval and Renaissance Studies Dissertation: "The Natural Love of God over Self: The Role of Self-Interest in Thirteenth-Century Ethics." Advisor: Edward P. Mahoney
1994-1995	Boston College M.A., Philosophy, 1995
1990-1994	The Catholic University of America B.A., Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, 1994

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Medieval and Late Scholastic Philosophy; Ethics; History of Political Philosophy

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Ancient Philosophy; Modern Philosophy

APPOINTMENTS

Chair, Department of Philosophy, University of St, Thomas, 2013-2014, 2017-2021, 2024-

Director, Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas, 2014-2017

Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Nevada – Las Vegas, 2002-2003

Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, Toronto, ON, Gilson Fellow, 2001-2002

PUBLICATIONS:

Monographs:

Thomas Aquinas on Virtue. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022.

Aquinas's Ethics. Cambridge Elements in Ethics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020.

Human Action in Thomas Aquinas, John Duns Scotus, and William of Ockham. Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2014.

Love of Self and Love of God in Thirteenth-Century Ethics. Notre Dame, Ind.: University of Notre Dame Press, 2005.

Journal Articles:

"Thomas Aquinas on Virtue: Directions for Further Inquiry." *The Thomist* 88 (2024): 113-127.

"Francisco De Vitoria on the Nature and Source of Civil Authority." *Review of Politics* 85 (2023): 1-22.

"Thomas, Scotus, and Ockham on the Object of Hope." *Recherches de Théologie et Philosophie Médiévales* 87 (2020): 1-26.

"Which Essence Receives Existence?" *The Thomist* 81 (2017): 471-505.

"Continuity and Innovation in Dominic Banez's Understanding of *Esse*: Banez's Relationship to John Capreolus, Paul Soncinas, and Thomas de Vio Cajetan." *The Thomist* 77 (2013): 367-394.

"Giles of Rome, Henry of Ghent, and Godfrey of Fontaines on Whether to See God Is to Love Him." *Recherches de Théologie et Philosophie Médiévales* 80 (2013): 57-76.

"William of Ockham on the Freedom of the Will and Happiness." *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 86 (2012) [Ockham Special Issue]: 435-456.

"Thomas and Scotus on Prudence without All the Major Virtues: Imperfect or Merely Partial?" *The Thomist* 74 (2010): 1-24.

"Unbelief and Sin in Thomas Aquinas and the Thomistic Tradition." *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition 8 (2010): 613-626.

"The Concept as a Formal Sign." *Semiotica* 179 (2010): 1-21.

"MacIntyre, Thomism and the Contemporary Common Good." *Analyse & Kritik* 30 (2008): 382-397.

"The Threefold Referral of Acts to the Ultimate End in Thomas Aquinas and His Commentators." *Angelicum* 85 (2008): 715-736.

"Augustine and Aquinas on Foreknowledge through Causes." *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition 6 (2008): 219-232.

"The Separation of the Interior and Exterior Act in Scotus and Ockham." *Mediaeval Studies* 69 (2007): 111-139.

"Perfect and Imperfect Virtues in Aquinas." *The Thomist* 71 (2007): 39-64.

"Rethinking Anscombe on Causation." *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly* 81 (2007): 89-107.

"Thomist Premotion and Contemporary Philosophy of Religion." *Nova et Vetera,* English Edition 4 (2006): 607-632.

"William of Ockham as a Divine Command Theorist." *Religious Studies* 41 (2005): 1-22.

"The Augustinianism of Thomas Aquinas' Moral Theory." *The Thomist* 67 (2003): 279-305.

"Faith, Philosophy, and Nominalism in Luther's Defense of the Real Presence." *Journal of the History of Ideas* 64 (2002): 63-82.

"*Dominium politicum et regale*: Sir John Fortescue's Solution to the Problem of Tyranny as Presented by Thomas Aquinas and Ptolemy of Lucca." *Mediaeval Studies* 62

(2000): 161-187.

"James of Viterbo's Rejection of Giles of Rome' Arguments for the Natural Love of God over Self." *Augustiniana* 49 (1999): 235-249.

"*Unibilitas*: The Key to Bonaventure's Understanding of Human Nature." *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 37 (1999): 227-250.

Book Chapters:

"Practical Truth and Conformity to Appetite: What the Medieval Philosophers Can Teach Us." In *Practical Truth: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives*, 123-139. Edited by Christopher Frey and Jennifer A. Frey. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2025.

"The Early Jesuits and Scholastic Theology." In *Ignatius of Loyola and Thomas Aquinas: A Jesuit Ressourcement*, 1-27. Ed. Justin Anderson, Matthew Levering, and Aaron Pidel. Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America, 2024.

"MacIntyre and Thomism." In *Learning from MacIntyre*, 52-76. Ed. Ron Beadle and Geoff Moore. Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2020.

"Operative Habits and Rational Nature." In *El Obrar Sigue Al Ser: Metafísica de la persona, la naturaleza y la acción*, 189-208. Ed. Carlos A. Casanova and Carlos A. and Ignacio Serrano del Pozo. Santiago de Chile/Valparaíso: RIL, 2020.

"Plato's *Republic* and Its Contemporary Relevance in the Ethics of Rist and MacIntyre." In *Passionate Mind: Essays in Ancient Philosophy, Patristics, and Ethics Honoring Professor John M. Rist*, 371-392. Ed. Barry David. Baden-Baden: Academia, 2019.

"Spanish Thomists on the Need for Interior Grace in Acts of Faith." *Beyond Dordt and De Auxiliis: The Dynamics of Protestant and Catholic Soteriology in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*, 66-86. Ed. Jordan Ballor, Matthew Gaetano and David Sytsma. Brill: Leiden, 2019.

"Virtue." *The Cambridge Companion to Medieval Ethics*, 150-171. Ed. Thomas Williams. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019.

"The Good as Telos in Cajetan, Banez and Zumel." *Being, Goodness and Truth*. Proceedings of the Society for Medieval Logic and Metaphysics, vol. 16. Ed. Gyula Klima and Alex Hall. Newcastle Upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2019.

"Natural Reason and Supernatural Faith." *Aquinas's Summa Theologiae: A Critical*

Guide, 188-203. Ed. Jeffrey Hause. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018.

"The Ethics of James of Viterbo." *A Companion to James of Viterbo*, 306-330. Ed. Antoine Côté and Martin Pickavé. Leiden: Brill, 2018.

"What is at Stake in the Question of whether Someone Can Possess the Natural Moral Virtues without Charity?" *The Virtuous Life: Thomas Aquinas on the Theological Nature of Moral Virtues*, 117-130. Ed. Harm Goris and Henk Schoot. Leuven/Paris/Bristol, Conn.: Peeters, 2017.

"How Sin Escapes Premotion: The Development of Thomas Aquinas's Thought by Spanish Thomists." *Thomism and Predestination: Principles and Disputations*, 192-213. Ed. Steven A. Long, Roger W. Nutt, and Thomas Joseph White. Ave Maria, Fl.: Sapientia Press, 2016.

"The Goodness and Evil of Objects and Ends." *Aquinas's Disputed Questions on Evil, A Critical Guide*, 126-145. Michael V. Dougherty, ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015.

"Practical Reasoning." In *The Oxford Handbook of Aquinas*, 276-286. Brian Davies and Eleonore Stump, ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012.

"Thomas Aquinas and John Duns Scotus on Individual Acts and the Ultimate End." In *Philosophy and Theology in the Long Middle Ages: A Tribute to Stephen F. Brown*, 351-374. Kent Emery, Jr., Russell L. Friedman, and Andreas Speer, ed. Studien und Texte zur Geistesgeschichte des Mittelalters. Leiden: Brill, 2011.

Book Reviews and Entries:

Review of Laurens Löwe. *Thomas Aquinas on the Metaphysics of the Human Act*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021. *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 61 (2023): 152-154.

Review of Eric W. Hagedorn, ed. and trans., *William of Ockham: "Questions on Virtue, Goodness, and the Will."* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021. *Speculum* 98 (2023): 266-267.

Review of Angela McKay Knobel, *Aquinas and the Infused Moral Virtues*. Notre Dame, Ind.: University of Notre Dame Press, 2021. *The Review of Metaphysics* 76 (2022):144-146.

Review of Hieromonk Gregory Hrynkiw, *Cajetan on Sacred Doctrine.* Washington, D.C.:

The Catholic University of America Press, 2020. *The Thomist* 86 (2022): 498-501.

Review of Jean Porter, *The Perfection of Desire: Habit, Reason and Virtue in Aquinas's Summa Theologiae*. Milwaukee, WI: Marquette University Press, 2018. *Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion*. http://readingreligion.org/books/perfection-desire

Review of Igor Agostini, *La démonstration de l'existence de Dieu: Les conclusions des cinq voies de saint Thomas d'Aquin et la preuve a priori dans le thomisme du XVIIe siècle*. In *Renaissance Quarterly* 71 (2018) : 1546-1547.

Review of Camille de Belloy, *Dieu comme soi-même: connaissance de soi et connaisance de Dieu selon Thomas d'Aquin: L'herméneutique d'Ambroise Gardeil*. Paris: Vrin, 2014. In *The Thomist* 80 (2016): 472-476.

Review of Adriano Oliva, *Amours: L'Église, les divorcés remariés, les couples homosexuels*. Paris: Cerf, 2015. In *The Thomist* 80 (2016): 137-140.

Review of David Decosimo, *Ethics as a Work of Charity: Thomas Aquinas and Pagan Virtue*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2014. In *The Expository Times* 126 (2015): 231-232.

"Medieval Ethics." *The International Encyclopedia of Ethics*, 3187-3198. Ed. Hugh LaFollette. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2013.

"Natura Pura: Two Recent Works." Review Essay of Bernard Mulcahy, *Aquinas's Notion of Pure Nature and the Christian Integralism of Henri de Lubac* (New York: Peter Lang, 2011), and Steven A. Long, *Natura Pura: On the Recovery of Nature in the Doctrine of Grace* (New York: Fordham University Press, 2010. *Nova et Vetera, English Edition* 11 (2013): 265-279.

Review of Steven A. Long, *Analogia Entis: On The Analogy of Being, Metaphysics, and the Act of Faith*. Notre Dame, Ind.: University of Notre Dame Press, 2011. Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews. 5/15/2012.

Review of Louis Mackey, *Faith, Order, Understanding: Natural Theology in the Augustinian Tradition*. Toronto: Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, 2011. In *Review of Metaphysics* 65 (2012): 883-885.

Review of Joshua P. Hochschild, *The Semantic of Analogy: Reading Cajetan's De Nominum Analogia*. Notre Dame, Ind.: University of Notre Dame Press, 2010. In *The Thomist* 75 (2011): 493-496.

Review of Tracy Rowland, *Ratzinger's Faith: The Theology of Pope Benedict XVI*. New York; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008. In *The Thomist* 73 (2009): 506-509.

Review of Anjan Chakravartty, *A Metaphysics for Scientific Realism: Knowing the Unobservable*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007. In *The Review of Metaphysics* 62 (2008): 391-393.

Review of Michael Sherwin, *By Knowledge and By Love: Charity and Knowledge in the Moral Theology of St. Thomas Aquinas*. Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2005. *Nova et Vetera* 5 (2007): 698-702.

"Free Will, Predestination, and Determinism." In the *New Dictionary of the History of Ideas*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2005.

Review of S.-Th. Bonino, et al., *Thomistes: ou de l'actualité de saint Thomas D'Aquin.* Paris: Parole et Silence, 2003. *Nova et Vetera, English Edition* 4 (2006): 447-449.

Review of Arthur Stephen McGrade, John Kilcullen, and Matthew Kempshall, eds., *Volume Two: Ethics and Political Philosophy*, The Cambridge Translations of Medieval Philosophical Texts (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001); M.S. Kempshall, *The Common Good in Late Medieval Political Thought* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999). *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 40 (2002): 119-121.

TALKS

"Killing and the Specification of Acts." Interatlantic Thomistic Conference/Cogresso Tomista InterAtlantico. Online. February, 2026.

"Reprobation and the Permission of Sin." Thomistic Circles Conference: On Predestination. Dominican House of Studies, Washington, DC. September 2025.

"Dominic Banez on Existence and the Suppositum." Thomistic Metaphysics Conference. Christ Church, Oxford University; University of South Bohemia, České Budějovice, Czechia. June 2025.

Francisco de Vitoria's Reception of Thomas Aquinas's Teaching on Will, Freedom, and Judgment. Symposium Thomisticum VIII. Prague, Czechia. June 2025.

"Does Natural Law Need Teleology." Book Scrub: "A History of Natural Law: from the Ancient World to the New Aristotelianism." All Souls, Oxford University. January 2025.

"Thomas Aquinas and the Common Good" Aquinas Institute, Blackfriars, Oxford

University. January 2025.

"Providence and Contingency in Book III of the *Summa Contra Gentiles*." Symposium Thomisticum VI. Vienna, Austria. June 2024.

"Will, Freedom, and Judgment in Vitoria." 5th Centenary of Vitoria's Arrival to Castile (1523-24). University of Madrid. Madrid, Spain. January 2024.

"What William de la Mare Can Teach Us about Thomas Aquinas on Free Choice." Congresso Tomistica Internacional. Universidad de los Andes. Santiago, Chile. June 2023.

"Why Does The Will Need Virtue?" Symposium Thomisticum V: Aquinas on Action. Cracow, Poland. June 2022

"Macrobius's Fourfold Division of Virtue in Aquinas's *Summa Theologiae*." Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy, Inaugural Conference. University of Notre Dame. South Bend, Ind. October 2021.

"Francisco de Vitoria (d. 1546) on the Nature and Source of Political Authority." The Catholic University of America. Washington, D.C. September 2021.

"The First Jesuits' Defense of Scholastic Philosophy and Theology." Ignatius the Thomist. Mundelein Seminary. Chicago, Il. (Zoom Conference) November 2020.

"Some Fourteenth-Century Background to Gerson's Claim that Sins are Mortal or Venial by God's Will." International Conference "Motivations and Normativity of Practical Reasons: Moral Philosophy in the 14th Century." Universität Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany. September 2019.

"Practical Truth and Conformity to Appetite: What the Medieval Philosophers Can Teach Us." Rice University. Houston, Texas. March 2019.

"Operative Habits and Rational Nature." IV Congreso Internacional de Filosofía Tomista. Universidad Santo Tomás, Santiago, Chile. July 2018.

"MacIntyre and Moral Disagreement: What Thomists Can Learn From MacIntyre." 12th Annual Conference of the International Society for MacIntyrean Enquiry. Durham University, Durham, England. July 2018..

"Francisco de Vitoria (d. 1546) on the Law of Nations and the Natural Partnership of Different Peoples." Thomas Aquinas College, Cal., September 2017; University South Bohemia, České Budějovice, Czech Republic. October 2017.

"What is at Stake in the Question of Whether Someone Can Possess the Natural Moral

Virtues without Charity?" *The Virtuous Life: Thomas Aquinas on the Theological Nature of Moral Virtues*. Thomas Instituut de Utrecht (Tilburg University). December 2015.

"Natural Reason and Supernatural Faith." *Session in Honor of Msgr. John F. Wippel.* American Catholic Philosophical Association. Boston, MA. October 2015.

"Between Protestantism and Molinism: Spanish Thomists on the Rationality of Faith" *51st International Congress of Medieval Studies*. Kalamazoo, Michigan. May 2015.

"The Ethics of James of Viterbo." *The Philosophy of James of Viterbo, An International Workshop*. University of Ottawa. May 2014.

"Giles of Rome, Henry of Ghent, and Godfrey of Fontaines on Whether to See God Is to Love Him." *13th International Congress of Medieval Philosophy*. Freising. August 2012.

"Thomas Aquinas on the Will's Self-Motion." *46th International Congress of Medieval Studies*. Kalamazoo, Michigan. May 2011.

"*Esse* as First Act and Perfection in Dominic Banez," *The Metaphysics of Aquinas and Its Modern Interpreters: Theological and Philosophical Interpretations*. Fordham University, New York. March 2011.

"Thomas, Scotus, and Ockham on Practical Reason." *Forschungskolloquium*. Thomas-Institut, Universitaet zu Koeln. May 2010.

'Thomas, Scotus, and Ockham on the Object of Hope." *Invited Talk.* Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. May 2010.

"Thomas Aquinas and John Duns Scotus on the Object of Hope." *44th International Congress of Medieval Studies*. Kalamazoo, Michigan. May 2009.

"Long's Natural Teleology and the *Finis Operis*." *43rd International Congress of Medieval Studies*. Kalamazoo, Michigan. May 2008.

"Thomas Aquinas and John Duns Scotus on Human Acts and the Ultimate End." *American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, 2007.* Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy. Baltimore, Maryland. December 2007.

"MacIntyre, Thomism and the Contemporary Common Good." *Alasdair MacIntyre's Revolutionary Aristotelianism: Ethics, Resistance and Utopia*. Human Rights and Social Justice Research Institute, London Metropolitan University, London, England. June 29-July 1, 2007.

"Unbelief and Sin." In "Aquinas on Faith." *42nd International Congress of Medieval Studies*. Kalamazoo, Michigan. May 2007.

"Prudence without the Unity of Virtues: Imperfect or Partial?" In "Aquinas on Prudence." *41st International Congress of Medieval Studies*. Kalamazoo, Michigan. May 2006.

"The Object of the Act of Self-Defense." In "Aquinas on Justice." *40th International Congress of Medieval Studies.* Kalamazoo, Michigan. May 2005.

"Prophecy and Predestination." *Aquinas the Augustinian*. Aquinas Center for Theological Renewal, Ave Maria University, Naples, Florida, February 2005.

"Ways of Looking at Mortal Sin." In "Aquinas on Charity." *International Congress of Medieval Studies*. Kalamazoo, Michigan. May 2004.

"Tooley's Criticisms of Anscombe on Causation." *New Mexico-West Texas Philosophical Society*. San Antonio, Texas. February 2004.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2015	Charles Cardinal Journet Prize by the Aquinas Center for Theological Renewal for *Human Action in Thomas Aquinas, John Duns Scotus, and William of Ockham*
2009-2010	Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship for Experienced Researchers, Thomas-Institut, University of Cologne, 2009-2010
2001-2002	Gilson Fellowship, Pontifical Institute for Mediaeval Studies, 2001-2002
1994	Phi Beta Kappa, The Catholic University of America

COURSES TAUGHT

Graduate

Thomistic Political Philosophy; Intro to Thomistic Ethics; Thomistic Metaphysics; Treatise on Human Nature; Theories of Action; Analogy in Aquinas; Essence and Existence in Thomas Aquinas and His Commentators; Contemporary Thomisms: Finnis, MacIntyre, Pinckaers; Scotus and Ockham; Causation: Contemporary Theories.

Undergraduate

Ancient Philosophy; Medieval Philosophy; Modern Philosophy; Analytical Philosophy; Philosophy of the Human Person; Metaphysics; Ethics; Aquinas Seminar; Senior Seminar; Philosophy of Mind; Faith and Reason; Philosophy of Law: Tradition of Natural Law; Philosophy of Religion; Contemporary Logic; Critical Thinking; Traditional Logic.

SERVICE

University of St. Thomas

Director, Center for Thomistic Studies, 2014-2016
Chair, Department of Philosophy, 2013-2014, 2017-2021, 2024-

Advisor, FYE / Odyssey, 2004-6
Chapel Committee, 2004-2007
Library Committee, 2003-2006
Faculty Senate, Fall, 2004, 2023-
Colloquium Coordinator, Center for Thomistic Studies, 2004-
Awards Committee, 2006-2009, 2022-
Human Subjects Committee, 2007-2009
Vice-Chair, Faculty Senate, 2011-2012
Chair, Faculty Senate, 2012-2013
Immediate Past Chair, Faculty Senate, 2013-2014
University Planning Committee, 2012-2017
Benefits Committee, 2014-2017
Faculty Compensation Committee, 2015-2017
Grievance Committee, 2010-2013, 2015-2017
Faculty Affairs Policy Committee, 2017-2019
VPAA Search Committee, 2017-2018
Dean's Search Committee, 2018-2019
Core Curriculum Review Committee, 2018-2019
Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2018-
    Chair, 2022-2023
Policy Review Committee, 2023-2024

Profession

Secretary/Treasurer, Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy, 2024-

Executive Committee, Society for Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy, 2019-2024.

Executive Committee, American Catholic Philosophical Association, 2019-2020

Executive Council, American Catholic Philosophical Association, 2017-2020

Board of Advisors, *Nova et Vetera* (English Edition), 2012-2023

National Secretary, *American Catholic Philosophical Association*, 2006-2010

Referee for *Journal of the History of Philosophy, British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *The Thomist*, *Faith and Philosophy*, *American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly*, *Nova et Vetera*, English Edition, *History of Philosophy Quarterly*, *Modern Theology*, *Studia NeoAristotelica, Ratio*, *Res Philosophica*, *Review of Politics*, *Recherches de Théologie et Philosophie Médiévales*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *Topoi*, University of Notre Dame Press, The Catholic University of America Press, Cambridge University Press.

LANGUAGES

Latin (Proficient)
French (Good)
German (Fair)
Ancient Greek (Reading with Dictionary)

REFERENCES

Peter Eardley. Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy. University of Guelph. peardley@uoguelph.ca

Tobias Hoffmann. Professor of Medieval Philosophy, Faculté des Lettres. Sorbonne Université. tobias.hoffmann@sorbonne-universite.fr

Steven Jensen. Professor, Center for Thomistic Studies, University of St. Thomas. jensensj@stthom.edu